

Professor Eric Brodin
P.O. Box 219
Duke Creek, NC 27506

Ronata Nesso
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
801 B Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Nesso:

During my career as a columnist and professor, I have written over 3,000 articles for various publications such as the Daily Record, the Coastal Piedmont Leader and other journals, newspapers and magazines in twenty countries. I feel compelled to write to you on a hot contemporary issue: the pending settlement of the federal government's antitrust case against Microsoft.

I live in a university community. In the past ten years, I have seen a technological explosion on campus that has revolutionized learning processes and intellectual research. I have found the technological advancements of the newspaper to be beneficial in my work as a columnist.

The technological advancements to which I refer are in no small measure due to the entrepreneurial success of Bill Gates and Microsoft. After all, Microsoft has developed products that have aided the process of word processing immeasurably, as well as improved columnists' ability to transmit data.

I served as the Endowed Chair of the Lundy-Fetterman School of Business at Campbell University from 1990 until 1998. During my tenure, I did my utmost to promote the notion that our societal liberty is largely dependent upon the foundation of the free enterprise system.

I fully realize that antitrust laws are needed in order to foster a competitive marketplace, however if a corporation's business practices do not result in harm to the consumer, the government should not interfere. I have seen no evidence that Microsoft's business practices have harmed consumers in any way. On the contrary, I believe that Microsoft has benefited the American consumers greatly.

I urge Judge Kollar-Kotelly to approve the proposed settlement of the lawsuit. It's time to allow the free market system to determine the corporate winners and losers in our great land.

Sincerely,

Eric Brodin
Professor Eric Brodin